
From: christine mckinnon [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 15 April 2014 9:09 PM
To: State Water Submissions
Subject: Proposed Peel Valley water charges

Dear Sir/ Madam

We are writing this email as concerned citizens of Tamworth and holders of a Peel Valley irrigation licence.

We cannot understand the rationale behind the IPART pricing for Peel valley water! How is it fair or sustainable to levy the highest charges in the state for our water? Especially when Peel River water at (\$55+ per ML) runs into the Namoi valley which then feeds into the Barwon-Darling system and onto the Murray where they are charged \$2.49 per ML...?

What happened to fair and equitable pricing for essential services? When motor vehicle registration costs, electricity costs and the cost of grocery items are kept to similar prices no matter where you live (eg: in Alice Springs you pay the same for a litre of milk as you do in Sydney despite the transport costs that should be added onto the costs).

The ACCC claims to promote competition and fair trade – how is the ACCC helping competition or fair trade when they are proposing such discriminatory prices in the Peel Valley?

Based on recent usage figures, the extra cost for water in the Peel Valley at \$55.13 per ML compared to the Namoi Valley at \$20.92 per ML is around \$250,000 per annum. Rather than being spent in the local economy this additional charge is extracted annually from the productive sector for payment to the Government in the form of an excessive water charge.

This inequity is unsustainable and discriminatory and will be the death knell of irrigated production in the valley as well as putting unfair pressure on families who chose to live in the Tamworth region.

We urge you to reconsider this pricing structure and make it fair across the board for farmers and residents of the country areas.

Yours sincerely
Christine and David McKinnon

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